

1

CLAIMS

2

3. 1. A method comprising:

4. opening media content that does not include a table of contents;

5. receiving a request for metadata associated with the media content;

6. extracting search criteria from the media content;

7. searching a database that contains media content metadata based on the

8. search criteria;

9. displaying one or more sets of metadata that, based on the search criteria,

10. may be associated with the media content;

11. receiving an indication of a user selection of a particular one of the sets of

12. metadata; and

13. storing the particular set of metadata in a media library, such that the set of

14. metadata is associated with the media content.

15.

16. 2. The method as recited in claim 1 wherein the media content

17. includes a data structure for storing textual metadata associated with the media

18. content.

19.

20. 3. The method as recited in claim 2 wherein the data structure for

21. storing textual metadata comprises attribute tags for storing at least one of an artist

22. name, an album name, and a track name.

1 **4.** The method as recited claim 3 wherein the media content is formatted
2 as an MP3 file and the attribute tags comprise a plurality of ID3 tags.

3
4 **5.** The method as recited claim 1 wherein the extracting comprises
5 identifying an artist name stored in an attribute tag associated with the media
6 content.

7
8 **6.** The method as recited claim 1 wherein the extracting comprises
9 identifying an album name stored in an attribute tag associated with the media
10 content.

11
12 **7.** The method as recited claim 1 wherein the extracting comprises
13 identifying a track name stored in an attribute tag associated with the media
14 content.

15
16 **8.** The method as recited claim 1 wherein the extracting comprises
17 parsing a filename associated with the media content based on a particular
18 character to identify an artist name and a track name.

19
20 **9.** The method as recited claim 1 wherein the extracting comprises
21 identifying a portion of a filename associated with the media content as a track
22 name.

1 **10.** The method as recited claim 1 wherein the extracting comprises
2 identifying a portion of a filename associated with the media content as an artist
3 name.

4

5 **11.** The method as recited claim 1 wherein the searching comprises:
6 expanding the search criteria to include similar search terms; and
7 searching a music metadata database based on the expanded search criteria
8 to identify metadata that may be associated with the media content.

9

10 **12.** The method as recited claim 1 wherein the searching comprises:
11 submitting search criteria to a server computer system; and
12 receiving search results from the server computer system.

13

14 **13.** The method as recited claim 1 wherein the displaying one or more
15 sets of metadata that, based on the search criteria, may be associated with the
16 media content comprises displaying one or more graphical tiles of data, such that
17 each tile displays a track name, an album name, and an artist name.

18

19 **14.** The method as recited claim 13 wherein a tile further displays a
20 track number.

21

22 **15.** The method as recited claim 13 wherein a tile further displays an
23 associated album art.

1 **16.** The method as recited claim 13 wherein a tile further displays an
2 associated genre.

3
4 **17.** The method as recited claim 13 wherein a tile further displays an
5 associated record label.

6
7 **18.** The method as recited claim 13 wherein a tile further displays an
8 associated release date.

9
10 **19.** The method as recited claim 1 wherein the storing the particular set
11 of metadata in a media library comprises:

12 writing the metadata to a media library, such that the metadata is associated
13 with a particular media ID; and

14 associating the particular media ID with the media content.

15
16 **20.** The method as recited in claim 19, wherein the associating
17 comprises modifying the media content to include the media ID.

18
19 **21.** The method as recited in claim 19, wherein the associating
20 comprises adding a binary GUID that represents the media ID to a file containing
21 the media content.

22
23 **22.** The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the media content
24 comprises an MP3 file.

1 **23.** The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the media content
2 comprises an WMA file.

3
4 **24.** The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising:
5 receiving a request for more details associated with a particular one of the
6 sets of metadata; and
7 displaying additional data associated with the particular set of metadata.

8
9 **25.** The method as recited in claim 24, wherein the particular set of
10 metadata is associated with a music album, and wherein the additional data
11 comprises a list of tracks associated with the music album.

12
13 **26.** The method as recited in claim 24, wherein the displaying
14 comprises:

15 submitting a media ID associated with the particular metadata to a server
16 computer system;
17 receiving the additional data from the server computer system; and
18 displaying the additional data.

19
20 **27.** One or more computer-readable media having computer-readable
21 instructions thereon which, when executed by a computer, cause the computer to
22 implement the method as recited in claim 1.

1 **28.** A method comprising:

2 opening media content that does not include a table of contents;

3 receiving a request for metadata associated with the media content;

4 extracting search criteria from the media content;

5 searching a database that contains media content metadata based on the

6 search criteria;

7 displaying one or more sets of metadata that, based on the search criteria,

8 may be associated with the media content;

9 receiving an indication of a user request to modify the search criteria;

10 displaying the search criteria to the user;

11 receiving user-submitted modifications to the search criteria;

12 searching the database that contains media content metadata based on

13 modified search criteria; and

14 displaying one or more sets of metadata that, based on the modified search

15 criteria, may be associated with the media content.

16

17 **29.** The method as recited in claim 28 wherein the media content

18 includes a data structure for storing textual metadata associated with the media

19 content..

20

21 **30.** The method as recited in claim 29 wherein the data structure for

22 storing textual metadata comprises structures for storing at least one of an artist

23 name, an album name, and a track name.

1 **31.** The method as recited in claim 28, wherein the media content
2 comprises an MP3 file.

3
4 **32.** The method as recited in claim 28, wherein the media content
5 comprises a WMA file.

6
7 **33.** One or more computer-readable media having computer-readable
8 instructions thereon which, when executed by a computer, cause the computer to
9 implement the method as recited in claim 28.

10
11 **34.** A method comprising:
12 opening media content that does not include a table of contents;
13 receiving a request for metadata associated with the media content;
14 extracting search criteria from the media content;
15 searching a database that contains media content metadata based on the
16 search criteria;
17 displaying one or more sets of metadata that, based on the search criteria,
18 may be associated with the media content;
19 receiving an indication of a user request to manually enter metadata to be
20 associated with the media content;
21 enabling the user to submit metadata;
22 receiving user-submitted metadata; and
23 storing the user-submitted metadata in a media library, such that the user-
24 submitted metadata is associated with the media content.

1 **35.** The method as recited in claim 34 wherein the storing the user-
2 submitted metadata in a media library comprises:

3 writing the metadata to a media library, such that the metadata is associated
4 with a particular media ID; and

5 associating the particular media ID with the media content.

6

7 **36.** The method as recited in claim 35, wherein the associating
8 comprises modifying the media content to include the media ID.

9

10 **37.** The method as recited in claim 35, wherein the associating
11 comprises adding a binary GUID that represents the media ID to a file containing
12 the media content.

13

14 **38.** The method as recited in claim 34, wherein the media content
15 comprises an MP3 file.

16

17 **39.** The method as recited in claim 34, wherein the media content
18 comprises a WMA file.

19

20 **40.** One or more computer-readable media having computer-readable
21 instructions thereon which, when executed by a computer, cause the computer to
22 implement the method as recited in claim 34.

1 **41.** A method comprising:

2 extracting search criteria from media content that lacks a table of contents,
3 the search criteria comprising at least one of a track name, an artist name, and an
4 album name; and

5 attempting to identify metadata associated with the media content based on
6 the search criteria.

7
8 **42.** The method as recited in claim 41, wherein the extracting comprises
9 identifying data stored in attribute tags associated with the media content.

10
11 **43.** The method as recited in claim 41, wherein the extracting comprises
12 parsing a filename associated with the media content.

13
14 **44.** The method as recited in claim 41, further comprising:
15 displaying metadata that, based on the search criteria, may be associated
16 with the media content;
17 receiving user selection of a particular set of the displayed metadata; and
18 maintaining the particular set of metadata in a media library, such that the
19 metadata is associated with the media content.

1 **45.** The method as recited in claim 41, further comprising:
2 if metadata associated with the media content is not found:
3 enabling a user to modify the search criteria; and
4 attempting to identify metadata associated with the media content
5 based on modified search criteria.

6
7 **46.** The method as recited in claim 45 wherein said enabling comprises
8 causing a Wizard user interface (UI) to be presented to a user via a client computer
9 so that information pertaining to the media content can be collected from the user.

10
11 **47.** The method as recited in claim 41, further comprising:
12 if metadata associated with the media content is not found:
13 enabling a user to enter metadata to be associated with the media
14 content; and
15 maintaining user-submitted metadata in a media library, such that
16 the user-submitted metadata is associated with the media content.

17
18 **48.** The method as recited in claim 47 wherein said enabling comprises
19 causing a Wizard user interface (UI) to be presented to a user via a client computer
20 so that information pertaining to the media content can be collected from the user.

21
22 **49.** The method as recited in claim 41, wherein media content comprises
23 an MP3 file.

1 **50.** One or more computer-readable media having computer-readable
2 instructions thereon which, when executed by a computer, cause the computer to
3 implement the method as recited in claim 41.

4

5 **51.** A method comprising:
6 identifying search criteria associated with media content, the media content
7 lacking a table of contents;

8 searching a database for metadata to be associated with the media content,
9 the search based on the search criteria; and

10 if no metadata to be associated with the media content is found, attempting
11 to identify more accurate search criteria by causing a Wizard user interface (UI) to
12 be presented to a user via a client computer so that information pertaining to the
13 media content can be collected from the user.

14

15 **52.** The method as recited in claim 51 further comprising receiving
16 information from the user, via the Wizard UI, the information pertaining to the
17 media content.

18

19 **53.** The method as recited in claim 51, wherein the media content
20 comprises an MP3 file, and the information collected by the Wizard UI comprises
21 an artist's name.

1 **54.** The method as recited in claim 51, wherein the specific media
2 comprises an MP3 file, and the information collected by the Wizard UI comprises
3 an album name.

4

5 **55.** The method as recited in claim 51, wherein the specific media
6 comprises an MP3 file, and the information collected by the Wizard UI comprises
7 a track name.

8

9 **56.** The method as recited in claim 51 further comprising searching the
10 database for metadata based on the information collected by the Wizard UI.

11

12 **57.** A method comprising:
13 identifying search criteria associated with media content, the media content
14 lacking a table of contents;

15 searching a database for metadata to be associated with the media content,
16 the search based on the search criteria; and

17 if no metadata to be associated with the media content is found, attempting
18 to identify metadata to be associated with the media content by causing a Wizard
19 user interface (UI) to be presented to a user via a client computer so that
20 information pertaining to the media content can be collected from the user.

21

22 **58.** The method as recited in claim 57 further comprising receiving
23 information from the user, via the Wizard UI, the information pertaining to the
24 media content.

1 **59.** The method as recited in claim 57, wherein the media content
2 comprises an MP3 file.

3

4 **60.** The method as recited in claim 57, wherein the information
5 collected by the Wizard UI comprises at least one of an artist's name, an album
6 name, a track name, a track number, and a genre.

7

8 **61.** The method as recited in claim 57 further comprising storing the
9 information collected by the Wizard UI in a media library such that the
10 information is associated with the media content.

11

12 **62.** A system comprising:
13 a processor;
14 a memory;
15 a media player application stored in the memory and executed on the
16 processor for playing media content that lacks a table of contents;
17 a media library stored in the memory for maintaining metadata associated
18 with the media content; and
19 a Wizard UI configured to enable a user to modify search criteria associated
20 with the metadata to be used to identify metadata associated with the media
21 content, the metadata to be stored in the media library.

1 **63.** The system as recited in claim 62 wherein the Wizard UI is further
2 configured to enable a user to submit user-entered metadata to be associated with
3 the media content in the media library.

4
5 **64.** A system comprising:

6 means for extracting search criteria from media content that lacks a table of
7 contents;

8 means for locating metadata that may be associated with the media content
9 based on the search criteria; and

10 means for displaying the metadata that may be associated with the media
11 content to a user.

12
13 **65.** The system as recited in claim 64 further comprising means for
14 enabling user modification of the search criteria.

15
16 **66.** The system as recited in claim 64 further comprising:

17 means for enabling a user to submit metadata to be associated with the
18 media content; and

19 means for associating the metadata with the media content.

20
21 **67.** The system as recited in claim 64 further comprising:

22 means for enabling user selection of metadata to be associated with the
23 media content; and

24 means for associating the metadata with the media content.

1 **68.** One or more computer-readable media comprising computer-
2 readable instructions which, when executed, cause a computer system to:

3 extract search criteria from media content that does not include a table of
4 contents; and

5 perform a search based on the search criteria, the search returning one or
6 more sets of metadata that may be associated with the media content.

7

8 **69.** The one or more computer-readable media as recited in claim 68,
9 further comprising computer-readable instructions which, when executed, cause a
10 computer system to display a Wizard UI that enables a user to modify the search
11 criteria.

12

13 **70.** The one or more computer-readable media as recited in claim 68,
14 further comprising computer-readable instructions which, when executed, cause a
15 computer system to:

16 provide a Wizard UI that displays the one or more set of metadata;

17 enable a user to select a particular set of metadata; and

18 associate the particular set of metadata with the media content.

1 **71.** The one or more computer-readable media as recited in claim 68,
2 further comprising computer-readable instructions which, when executed, cause a
3 computer system to:

4 enable a user to submit metadata to be associated with the media content;
5 and

6 associate the user-submitted metadata with the media content.

7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25